GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:241
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Construction of Rail Over Bridges
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out an ambitious plan to replace 208 railway crossings by Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) and if so, the details thereof including time-frame fixed therefor and expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(b) the status of construction of the ongoing ROBs in the country particularly in the State of Maharashtra along with expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the number of ROB projects which are running behind schedule including reasons therefor and the revised time-frame laid down for their completion; and

(d) the number of ROB projects including those sanctioned in the last Rail Budget which are yet to take off including the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 241 BY SHRI RAJU SHETTY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.08.2016 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF RAIL OVER BRIDGES

(a) to (d) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 10.11.2014 between Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORTH), that MORTH/NHAI shall construct complete ROB/RUB on National Highways in the country at their own cost on single entity basis.

Further, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has launched a programme ("Setu Bharatam") on 4th March, 2016 for construction of 208 Road Over Bridges (ROBs)/Road Under Bridges (RUBs) in lieu of 208 Level Crossings, which are not falling under any other programme like National Highways Development Project (NHDP) etc. by end of 2019. The details of 208 ROBs are as under:
Andhra Pradesh-33, Assam-12, Bihar-20, Chattisgarh-5, Gujarat-8, Haryana-10, Himachal Pradesh-5, Jharkhand-11, Karnataka-17, Kerala-4, Madhya Pradesh-6, Maharashtra-12, Odisha-4, Punjab-10, Rajasthan-9, Tamil Nadu-9, Uttrakhand-2, Uttar Pradesh-9, West Bengal-22.
Railway has sanctioned the works for construction of 1,592 Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in lieu of Level Crossings across the country on cost sharing basis. Out of these 1,592 ROBs, 213 ROBs have been completed and commissioned. In addition to this, Railway Portion of 145 ROBs have also been completed but works on approaches are in progress. Works for balance 1,234 ROBs are at various stages of planning, estimation, invitation of tender and execution.Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) are sanctioned under Plan Head-30. In 2016-17, ?2,443 crores have been allotted for Plan Head-30.

From 2009-10 to 2013-14, average 762 ROBs/RUBs per year have been constructed, whereas average 1066 ROBs/RUBs per year have been constructed during 2014-15 & 2015-16.

In the State of Maharashtra, Railway has sanctioned the works for construction of 101 Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in lieu of Level Crossings. Out of these 101 ROBs, 10 ROBs have been completed and commissioned. In addition to this, Railway Portion of 4 ROBs have also been completed but works on approaches are in progress by the State Government.

Funds for Road Safety Works (ROBs/RUBs/Subways/Level Crossings) come from Central Road Funds (CRF) as a percentage of cess collected on Diesel and Petrol by Ministry of Finance. Due to limited availability of funds and huge throwforward of already sanctioned works, these works are progressing to the extent possible. Completion of ROB is dependent upon the availability of funds and construction of approaches by State Government. Progress also depends upon removal of encroachment, land acquisition, availability of funds with State Government and other regional priorities. Railway makes all efforts to complete the Railway portion alongwith approaches by State Government. Ministry of Railway has issued the policy to construct ROB by single entity i.e. State Government/Railways/PSU and works are in progress on single entity basis in State of Bihar, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Jharkhand etc.
Railway has taken pro-active measures in close coordination with various stake holders to improve the progress of construction of ROBs/RUBs. Some of the initiatives are as under:
â€¢ engaging single agency for construction of Railway Bridge as well as the approaches.

â€¢ joint survey with all concerned including State Government to finalise the tentative General Arrangement Drawing (GAD).
â€¢ circulation of check list and guidelines for preparation of GAD to State Government to avoid any back reference from Railway to State Government.
â€¢ standardization of drawings for various spans to avoid delay in designing.
â€¢ nomination of nodal officer for each State for single window clearance of GAD from Railway side.
â€¢ use of pre-cast /pre-fabricated components of the bridge.
â€¢ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to eliminate all level crossings on National Highway Corridors, bringing clarity on roles and responsibilities of both the Ministries.
â€¢ web-based application with user-friendly features for online submission and approval of various plans and drawings related to ROBs/RUBs of NHAI within 60 days.
â€¢ Minister of Road Transport, Highways & Shipping has been requested to consider construction of ROBs/RUBs on level crossings on non-NH roads where traffic density being more than one lakh Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) per day.

â€¢ To meet the requirement of funds for safety related works, action initiated for creation of a graded Rastriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) to be operated over next five years. In this programme, ?43,444 crores have been projected for safety work at level crossing.
â€¢ Wherever possible elevated track will be planned for construction to avoid level crossings.
â€¢ General Managers have been empowered to sanction RUBs upto ? 2.50 crore value within their powers.
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